

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 144, line 3 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

413
D²
92

--In other preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid fragment comprise the consensus sequence NNNNCNNNNNNNNUNNANNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:1) or NNNNCNNNNNNNU NNANNNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:384) and wherein the sequence has a first double stranded region, an internal loop region, a second double stranded region and an end loop region. In other preferred embodiments, an *in silico* representation of a nucleic acid fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprises the consensus sequence NNNNCNNNNNNNNUNNANN NNNNNN or NNNNCNNNNNNNNUNNANNNNNNNN. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprises the sequence NNNNCNNNNNNNNUNNANNNNNNNN or NNNNCNNNNNNNNUNN ANNNNNNNN. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprises the human sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) UUUACAACAUAUAUCUAGUUUACAGAAA AAUC. In other preferred embodiments, an *in silico* representation of a nucleic acid fragment comprises the human sequence UUUACAACAUAUAUCUAGUUUACAGAAAAAUC--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 145, line 19 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

SUB
E45
A3

--In other preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid comprises the consensus sequence NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAUGGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:3), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAUGGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:385), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAUGGAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:386), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAUGGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:387), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAUGGAAACUN UUN (SEQ ID NO:388), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAUGGAAA CUUUN (SEQ ID NO:389), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAUGGAAA CUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:390), NNNNANAUGGGNNNUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAUGGAA

ACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:391), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCUAUGGA
 AACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:392), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCUAUGG
 AAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:393), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCUAUG
 GAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:394), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCUAU
 GGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:395), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCUAU
 GGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:396), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCUA
 UGGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:397), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:398), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:399), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:400), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCC
 UAUGGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:401), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:402), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUNNUUN (SEQ ID NO:403), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCU
 AUGGAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:404), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUACUGUGUUCCUA
 UGGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:405), NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCUAUG
 GAAACUNUUN (SEQ ID NO:406), or NNNNANAUGGGNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUUCCUA
 UGGAAACUUUN (SEQ ID NO:407) and having a first double stranded region, a first internal loop
 region, a second double stranded region, a second internal loop region, a third double stranded region
 and an end loop region. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid
 fragment comprises the human sequence (SEQ ID NO:4) UAGGAUAUGGGNNUCACACUUAUCUG
 UGUUCCUAUGGAAACUAUUUG. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated
 nucleic acid fragment comprises the mouse sequence (SEQ ID NO:5) UAGGAGAUGGGGGGUC
 ACACUUACUGUGUUCCUAUGGAAACUUUG. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and
 isolated nucleic acid fragment comprises the rat sequence (SEQ ID NO:6) UAGGAGAUGGGGGG
 UCACACUUACUGUGUUCCUAUGGAAACUUUUG.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 146, line 26 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

SUB E46
114

~~In other preferred embodiments, a nucleic acid comprises the consensus sequence AUG GGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:7), AUGGGNNNUCACANNUA CUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:408), AUGGGNNNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:409), AUGGGNNNUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:410), AUGG GNUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:411), AUGGGNUCACANNUACUGU GUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:412), AUGGGUCACANNUANCUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:413), or AUGGGUCACANNUACUGUGUCCUAU (SEQ ID NO:414) and having a first double stranded region, an internal loop region, a second double stranded region and an end loop region. A purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising the human sequence (SEQ ID NO:8) AUGGGUCACACUUAUCUGUGUCCUAU. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising the mouse sequence (SEQ ID NO:9) AUGGGGGUCACACUUAUCUGUGUCCUAU. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising the rat sequence (SEQ ID NO:10) AUGGGGGGU CACACUUAUCUGUGUCCUAU.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 151, line 16 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

SUB 3
1
113

~~In other preferred embodiments, a nucleic acid comprising the consensus sequence NNUNNNNNNNGAUCNUNNNNGAUNCUUUNUNNNANCCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:20), NNUNNNNNNNGAUCNUNNNNGAUNCUUUNUNNNANCCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:415), or NNUNNNNNNNGAUCNUNNNNGAUNCUUUNUNNNACCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:416) and having a first double stranded region, a first internal loop region, a second double stranded region, and a first end loop region, a third double stranded region, and a second end loop region. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising the human sequence (SEQ ID NO:21) UAUAUAUAUGGAUCUUUAUGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCUAG GGGC. In other preferred embodiments, a purified and isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising the mouse sequence (SEQ ID NO:22) GAUAUAUAUGGAUCUUUAAGAUCUUUUUGUA~~